Raiders drop opener, 59-54

Friday night's Appomattox vs. Amherst varsity basketball game will go down in the books as a loss for the Raiders, but for the fans, the players and the coach, the 59-54 overtime loss represented at least a moral victory.

For starters, Amherst is a Group AAA team with a strong basketball tradition. Add to this the fact that, to a man, Amherst is a physically larger team than the Raiders, and it isn't difficult to see the reason for Appomattox's optimism in the face of defeat.

Both teams started slowly in the game, with Amherst outscoring the Raiders 11-8 in the first quarter. In the second period, each squad scored 12 points, and the first half ended with Amherst ahead, 23-20.

Amherst extended its lead in the third period, outscoring Appomattox 10-8. But in the fourth quarter, the Raider offense heated up, and with eight seconds left on the clock in regulation time, Darren Tolley hit a rebound shot to tie the score at 47-47, sending the game into overtime.

For the first minute and a half of the three-minute overtime period, the game was nip and tuck. But the Raiders, losing center Mike Jackson and forward Jack Baker to foul trouble, fell behind in the waning moments of the game and were unable to catch Amherst, who recorded the victory, 59-54.

Tim Austin, Mike Jackson and Jack Baker all scored in double figures for Appomattox, with 15, 13, and 12 points, respectively. Others scoring for the Raiders were Kinckle Robinson (six points(, Darren Tolley (four points), and Alex Almond and Neal Kelso, with two points each.

The Raiders compiled 37 rebounds, including 12 by Jackson and 10 by Baker. Appomattox hit 23 of 61 shots from the floor, and eight of 19 freethrow attempts.

Top scorers for Amherst were William Massie, with 26 points; Leonard Harris, with 19 points, and Ben Retts, with 11 points.

"This was a good test for our first ball game," commented Raider coach Coty Dickerson this week. "Naturally,we're disappointed we didn't win. We have more work to do, to overcome our relative inexperience. But the Amherst game should help us in preparing for our district schedule.

"We saw two excellent big men against Amherst, and they used the zone and man-to-man defenses against us, both of which we'll see in the Seminole District this season."

One aspect of the game which diturbed Dickerson was the Raiders' poor foul shooting, with a success rate of only 42.1 percent.

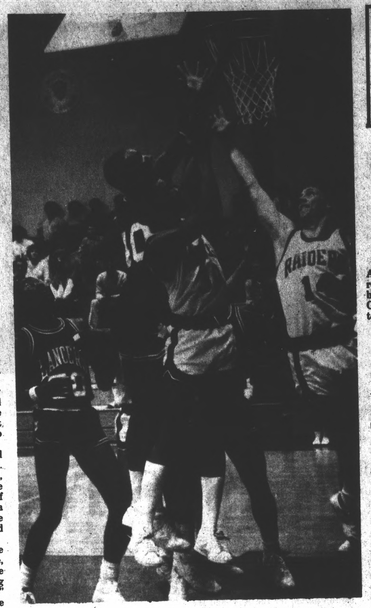
"Overall, we didn't have a very good shooting night, and our foul shooting was particularly bad," the coach notes. "We can't perform at the foul line like that and expect to win many games."

And, the coach added, "We need to work on better shot selection. Friday night, we were playing hard, and may have gotten a little anxious. But these are the kinds of things that you can expect when a team is reltively new. They're the things you can overcome with hard work and more game experience."

One thing which pleased the coach was the crowd at the game, and the fans' level of support. "The crowd was a factor in our staying with it, even when we got down," Dickerson noted. "The fans did have a lot to do with the kids' coming back the way they did."

"We need to build on this performance,"Dickerson concluded. "We have to keep working on our freethrows and our shot selection, and these close games will start to go our way."

The Raiders were scheduled to travel to Liberty Tuesday evening after the Times-Virginian deadline. Friday night, the team will play Buckingham at home. Next. Tuesday, the Raiders play Gretna at home.



Rebounding

APPOMATTOX COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL Raider varsity basketball players Tim Austin (right) and Neal Kelso battle for a rebound with Amherst players in Friday night's season-opening game at Appomattox. The Raiders lost the closely contested game in overtime, 59-54, but coach Coty Dickerson was pleased with his team's play and their scrappiness. Austin was the leading scorer for Appomattox, with 15 points. Kelso scored two points for the Raiders. The team will face off against Buckingham this Friday night at home.

Times-Virginian

SPORTS

Final registration for youth basketball slated

The Appomattox County Youth Association will hold its last registration session for little league basketball this Saturday, Dec. 8 at Central Fidelity Bank, from 9 a.m. to noon.

Boys and girls ages eight through 15 are eligible to register. Cost of registration is $5.

A registration form is provided for parents' convenience.

Registration form

NAME_____ AGE_____ HEIGHT_____

ADDRESS_____ TELEPHONE_____

DATE OF BIRTH_____
SIGNATURE OF PARENTS OR GUARDIAN

_____ DATE_____

I hereby give permission for the above named boy or girl to play (Basketball, Football or Baseball) in the Appomattox Youth Association.

RELEASE

For and in consideration of my child being allowed to participate in the Appomattox Youth Association Program, I hereby release all coaches, officials, and the Appomattox Youth Association from any and all injuries which my child may sustain or receive while practicing in the above mentioned program, either during practice or actual games or going to and from said practice or games.

_____(SEAL)
Parent

_____(SEAL)
Guardian

Happiness is 4-H

By FRANK H. SWEET
Extension Agent

One hundred and twenty-eight 4-H'ers took part in Share-the-Fun programs last week. A total of 69 different acts were presented. Chosen among the Juniors (age 9 - 11) and Intermediates (age 12 - 13) to participate in the county Share-the-Fun show are the following: Cynthia Wooldridge, Tracy Guthrie, Angela Chambers, Renee Quick, Lisa Quick, Kerri McFadden, Genna Chambers, Mary Beth Hix, Tina Martin, Ginny Sweet, Jonathan Edwards, Jeff Stratton, Matt Guthrie, Stephanie Grishaw, Chatel Sauls, Dee Stanks, Katie Powell, Roxanne Williams, Terri Hamlett, Sheri Williams, Amena Johnson, Robert Coleman, Jennifer Carnefix, Robin Fuller, Kelly Hamlett, Catherine Bailey, Joyce Bailey, Nicole Randolph, Allison Lawson, Shana Harvey, Terry Pauletite, Jarrod Jamerson, Darin Carson, Ray Conner, Tharna Sue Jenkins, Julie Notestein, Jennice Notestein, and Heather Bryan. Senior 4-H'ers (age 14 and up) will audition this week for the opportunity to participate in the county Share-the-Fun on Dec. 13.

Thanks to Mrs. Betty Bryan, Mrs. Ocie Mack, Jeannice Bartelt, Jennifer Coleman, David Hancock, Annette Turner, Tony Bailey, Lisa Williamson, Ada Hunter, Anne Hancock and Kathy Bryan, who served as judges for the after school Share-the-Fun prgorams last week.

Senior 4-H'ers are reminded of Achievement Record workshops to be held during the week after Christmas. All 4-H'ers who are 14 or older have the opportunity to complete and turn in Achievement Records.

Appomattox 4-H families will again have the opportunity to order strawberry plants through a special 4-H program. Four varieties of strawberries will be offered: Earliglow, Guardian, Scott and Delite. Order forms and details will be given to 4-H members during their December and January meetings. Families wishing to order strawberry plants but not having youngsters in 4-H shall contact the Extenstion Office for details.

Plans are underway to hold a special 4-H Sports-A-Field Day in the Spring. This event will most likely be at Holiday Lake and will include competitive and educational events including target shooting (both air rifle and.22 caliber rifle), casting for accuracy, sportsman's quiz, taxidermy, and gun dog training. Complete plans will be available later in the winter. The Sports-A-Field Day will hopefully fill a vital need in the 4-H Program for activities in outdoor sports.

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THE 1984 CHRISTMAS GARDEN CLUB TOUR will feature the home of Dr. and Mrs. John M. Fodison, Country Club Estates, Colonian Circle. Pictured above are Mrs. Ruth Webb (left), Mrs. Edith Nash (center), putting the finishing touches to a Christmas arrangement while Mrs. John Fodison (right) looks on. The tour will be held Sunday, Dec. 16 from 2 p.m. until 6 p.m. Admission is $1.00. Below, Jenny Fodison and Rosella Harty get ready to add a holiday note to the fireplace of the Fodison home. (photo by Bill Sherred)

Changes are confusing some Contel customers

All the changes and new services Continental Telephone is implementing have caused some confusion for Contel customers, said Dan Stainback, superintendent-telephone services.

"We want to clear up these questions and put our customers ste pase," Stainback said.

Continental customers recently received a direct mailer about phone ownership and maintenance of inside wire. "Our customers don't have to do anything if they don't want to," Stainback said. "If we do not receive the mail-back card from them, we will automatically do two things. On January 1, we'll start applying the telephone leasing charge towards the purchase of the phone they are now leasing. And we will continue charging 40 cents per month to maintain their inside wire for them."

At the end of the 12-month payment period, the phone will be paid for and maintentance will be the customer's responsibility. During the 12-month payment period, Continental will provide a limited maintenance warranty.

If customers want to keep their rotary phones, they can certainly do so, said Stainback. However, if someone wants to subscribe to any of the custom calling features (call waiting, call forwarding, three-way calling and speed calling), they will have to have a touch tone phone.

Stainback noted that special features will be added to the Contel system as they become available. To use these new features customers must have touch tone service.

Another area of confusion is Extended Area Calling which expands the local calling area at reduced rates. Customers in Amherst and Sweet Briar can now call Allwood (922) and Gladstone (933); Allwood can now call Amherst (946), Gladstone (989) and Sweet Briar (381); Gladstone can now call Allwood (922), Amherst (946) and Sweet Briar (381) without dialing a "1" before the seven digit number.

Mailing tips

With a little bit of care, holiday cards and packages can arrive on time and in good shape, says Postmaster O.S. McCoy.

In addition to shopping and mailing early, customers are urged to properly address cards and packages with the name, house number and street (Rural Rt Number and Box Number or post office box) number, and the city, state and ZIP Code reserved for the last line. Use of apartment numbers is encouraged.

"It is also a good idea to put a slip of paper with the recipient's name and address and your return address inside parcels, and be sure the addressing on the outside of the parcel includes your return address and ZIP Code," McCoy says.

Customers are also reminded to check the size of their envelopes before mailing Christmas and other holiday cards. Letter size standards require that envelopes be at least 3-1/2 inches high and 5 inches long to be accepted for mailing.

Parcels will arrive at their intended destination in good shape if you follow a few simple suggestions:

CUSHION: Make sure contents are well-cushioned and there is no empty space in the box. Use crumpled newspaper around the item -- including all sides, top and bottom. Commercially available foam shells or air-pocket padding also are good cushioning materials. Padded mailing bags are a good way to mail small items.

DON'T OVERWRAP: Just use your carton. Brown paper and twine cord are not necessary. Paper can rip, and twine can become entangled in mail processing equipment.

SEAL PROPERLY: Close your parcel with one of the three recommended types of tape: pressure sensitive, nylon-reinforced kraft paper, or glass-reinforced pressure sensitive. Don't use cellophane tape or masking tape -- they aren't sturdy enough. It's a good idea to put a slip with the address and return address inside the parcel.

AVOID SMUDGES: Use smudge-proof ink for your addressing.

POSITION ADDRESSES PROPERLY: Put the recipient's address in the lower right portion of the package. Put your return address in the upper left corner of only one side of the package. Remove all other labels.

USE ZIP CODES: Be sure to include ZIP Code in both the

[Continued on page 14]

DID YOU KNOW?

1) Interest rates are at their lowest in years.
2) VA and FHA rates are 12½% fixed.
3) Veterans can borrow up to 100%.
4) FHA stands for Federal Housing Authority and should not be confused with Farmers Home.
5) FHA requires downpayment equal to 3% of the 1st $25,000 and 5% of balance on the purchase price.
6) VHDA (Virginia Housing and Development Authority) rates is 10.84% fixed.
7) VHDA is for persons who have not owned a home in the last 3 years or 1st time home buyers.
8) VHDA requires down payment of 5% of the purchase price.
9) VHDA requires adjusted gross income of not more than $27,200 on existing housing and $29,400 on new housing.
10) VHDA purchase price cannot exceed $51,600 on existing and $61,100 on new housing.

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George F. Abbitt, Jr. (left) and Watkins M. Abbitt posed for this picture around 1910.

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